**Picasso at the Lapine Agile**

by Steve Martin

Studio Theater

1st rehearsal  September 9
Tech starts    October 20
Performs October 28-November 18, 2017

Synopsis:

This long running Off-Broadway absurdist comedy places Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso in a Parisian cafe in 1904, just before the renowned scientist transformed physics with his theory of relativity and the celebrated painter set the art world afire with cubism. In his first comedy for the stage, the popular actor and screenwriter plays fast and loose with fact, fame, and fortune as these two geniuses muse on the century's achievements and prospects as well as other fanciful topics with infectious dizziness. Bystanders, including Picasso' agent, the bartender and his mistress, Picasso's date, an elderly philosopher, Charles Dabernow Schmendimen and an idiot inventor introduce additional flourishes of humor. The final surprise patron to join the merriment at the Lapin Agile is a charismatic dark haired singer time-warped in from a later era.

Character Breakdown:

**Freddy** – Male, 30’s – 40’s. Owner/bartender of the Lapin Agile. He is a dreamer and supporter of the arts. Loves a good discussion/debate. Has been Germaine's boyfriend for a number of years, yet has not asked her to marry him. Longs to be "more" than he is.

**Gaston** – Male, 60’s+. Connoisseur of women, now past his prime but still trying. Humorous, wise, and utterly French.

**Germaine** – Female, 30’s – 40’s. Waitress, Freddy's long term girlfriend. Worldly wise, smart, strong; not a glamorous lady, yet undeniably sensual. Voluptuous, earthy, and witty.

**Albert Einstein** – Male, mid 20’s – 30’s. The not-yet famous scientist, currently a patent clerk, approximately one year before publishing *The Special Theory of Relativity*. Has the energy and excitement of someone about to prove himself.

**Suzanne** – Female, 20’s. Young French beauty that has been a lover/inspiration of late to Picasso. Thinks she is far more worldly than she really is; however, she is not entirely naïve nor is she unintelligent. A fast learner.

**Sagot** – Male, 30’s – 60's. Picasso's art dealer. Warm, funny if a bit blunt. He has an intuitive sense of what will sell and what won't. Negotiates art sales with killer precision, but is not without a heart.
Pablo Picasso – Male, mid 20’s – 30’s. The painter, currently in the midst of his portraiture and "Blue" phase. He hungers for success as an artist and hasn't quite broken through. At the point that the play takes place, he is approximately three years away from creating Les Demoiselles d'Avignon, arguably the painting that launched the Cubist movement.

Charles Dabernow Schmendiman – Male, 30’s – 60’s. An up and coming business man. He thinks very highly of himself and his potential. Obnoxiously unscrupulous and a braggart.

The Countess – Female, 20’s+. Intellectual, noble. Patron and love interest for Einstein. Has bright red hair.

A Visitor – Male, 25 – 40. He wears blue suede shoes and has a very distinctive way of swinging his hips. A good Southern gent that will be a famous crooner. Has a tendency to wear rhinestones and should be readily recognizable to our audiences.

Female Admirer – Female, 20’s. The ultimate fan girl, almost swooning with excitement.